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PATENT
ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. 046601-5061

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Yusaku KURIHARA et al.)
)
Application No.: 09/650,670)
)
Filed: August 30, 2000)
)
For: IMAGE PROCESSING APPARATUS,)
IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, AND)
IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS)

Group Art Unit: ~~Unassigned~~ 2622

Examiner: ~~Unassigned~~
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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the document listed on the attached PTO-1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed, to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits for the above-referenced application. Accordingly, Applicant does not believe a fee is due for the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.

Copies of the listed documents are attached.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the listed documents and evidence that consideration by making appropriate notations on the attached form.

The following documents are listed in the accompanying Form PTO 1449 and are in a language other than English.

1. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 10-16319 (A): The relevance of this document can be understood from the discussion at page 5 of the specification and attached abstract.

2. Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication Nos. 6-186951 (A) and 10-211741 (A):
The relevance of these documents can be understood from the attached abstracts.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that the listed document is material or constitutes "prior art." If it should be determined that the listed document does not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicant reserves the right to present to the Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such document.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed document, should the document be applied against the claims of the present application.

Except for issue fees payable under 37 C.F.R. §1.18, the Commissioner is hereby authorized by this paper to charge any additional fees during the entire pendency of this application including fees due under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17 which may be required, including any required extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0310. This paragraph is intended to be a **CONSTRUCTIVE PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME** in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a)(3).

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP

By:



Robert J. Goodell
Reg. No. 41,040

Dated: August 3, 2001

MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS LLP
1800 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-5869
(202) 467-7000